

MODULE 7

OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this module, the trainee, without the aid of references, will be able to:

1. Describe the purpose of antemortem inspection.
2. Describe which birds must receive an antemortem inspection.
3. Describe who may perform antemortem inspection.
4. Describe plant management responsibilities for providing facilities for antemortem inspection.
5. Describe plant management responsibilities for providing personnel to assist the inspector at antemortem inspection.
6. Describe the antemortem inspection procedure.
7. List observations that should be made when conducting an antemortem inspection.
8. Describe how U.S. Suspect birds are identified.
9. Describe how U.S. Condemned birds are identified.
10. Describe who is responsible for examining birds showing signs of abnormalities or diseases during antemortem inspection.
11. Given a list of antemortem findings, indicate whether the birds should be passed for regular slaughter, slaughtered as suspects, withheld from slaughter, or condemned.
12. Describe the correct procedure to follow when biological residues are suspected.
13. Describe the correct procedure to follow when a reportable disease is suspected.

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MODULE 7 SCRIPT

Introduction

The purpose of antemortem inspection is to accept only those birds that are healthy, free of harmful chemical and drug residues, and capable of being converted into wholesome product for the consumer.

Inspection of live birds is a screening process to remove obviously diseased birds from the food supply prior to slaughter and to identify birds that require a more extensive postmortem examination by an FSIS veterinarian.

All birds presented for slaughter by the establishment must receive antemortem inspection. Antemortem inspection may be performed by either an FSIS veterinarian or a food inspector under veterinary supervision.

Plant Management Responsibilities

Plant management must provide adequate facilities and trained competent personnel to assist the inspector at antemortem inspection.

In pens and alleys where inspection is done, the plant is required to provide at least 10 footcandles of light when measured at three feet above the floor.

Suspect pens require at least 20 footcandles of light when measured at three feet above the floor. The suspect pen must also have a weathertight roof. Although only one form is completed for

and adequate facilities for humane restraint.

Plant personnel are responsible for moving, segregating, restraining, identifying or disposing of the birds as may be required.

Inspection Procedure

The inspector must observe both sides of each bird at rest and in motion.

Antemortem inspection should include observation of the head, eyes, nostrils, beak, neck, wings, body, tail area, legs, and feet.

Official Marks and Devices

U.S. Suspects: All birds required to be identified as **U.S. Suspects** shall be tagged by plant personnel with a serially numbered metal or plastic leg band or tag bearing the term "**U.S. Suspect**". An "Identification Tag - Antemortem" FSIS Form 6150-1 will be completed for each suspect (mark out the word "CONDEMN").

Exception: A separate form is not necessary for each ratite with leg deformities which are not caused from trauma. However, affected birds shall be segregated into separate lots; condition and number of birds shall be recorded on the form.

each different condition in a lot, such

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birds must be handled as suspects. When slaughtered, they must be individually identified with a multi-sectioned "U.S. Retained" tag, and recorded as suspects on the "Daily Disposition Record" FSIS Form 6200-14.

U.S. Condemned: All birds required to be identified as **U.S. Condemned** shall be tagged by plant personnel with a serially numbered metal or plastic leg band or tag bearing the term **U.S. Condemned**. An "Identification Tag - Antemortem" FSIS Form 6150-1 will be completed for each condemned bird (mark out the word "SUSPECT").

When antemortem inspection of abnormal birds reveals a dying condition, a disease or condition that may require carcass condemnation on post-mortem inspection, or a disease or condition requiring further observation or treatment, the affected birds must be identified as **U.S. Condemned** and must be withheld from slaughter:

Condemned birds must be tagged **U.S. Condemned**, and must be promptly and humanely killed by plant employees and disposed of as required. As an alternative, they may be held for observation and/or treatment in separate, identified facilities on the official premises. Following recovery, they may be reexamined by an FSIS veterinarian. If normal, they may be passed for slaughter as suspects.

Dead-on-Arrival

Dead-on-arrival (DOA) carcasses will be tagged **U.S. Condemned** and disposed of in a manner that precludes their use as

human food.

Suspects

Birds showing signs of abnormalities or diseases shall be segregated into designated pens for examination by an FSIS veterinarian.

Depending on the results of the examination by the veterinarian, these birds will be passed for regular slaughter, slaughtered as suspects, withheld from slaughter, or condemned as follows:

1. A bird in which an abnormality is detected that would not affect the wholesomeness of the bird, i.e., a minor deformity -- pass for regular slaughter.
2. Any bird which shows signs of a disease or condition that would cause condemnation of a part of the carcass, i.e., a bruise, wound, tumor, abscess, sore, -- slaughter as a suspect.
3. Any bird with signs of abnormalities or diseases such as dirty ruffled feathers, swollen sinuses, eye and/or nostril discharge, diarrhea, swellings, lameness, ascites, cachexia, etc. -- slaughter as a suspect.
4. Any bird which does not clearly show symptoms of disease but is suspected of being affected with a disease or condition that would cause condemnation of the carcass on postmortem inspection -- slaughter as a suspect.
5. Any bird that is seriously crippled or is a "downer" -- the nature and extent of the condition will determine whether the bird should be condemned, withheld from slaughter for further observation, or

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slaughtered as a suspect.

The carcass disposition of "downers" passed for slaughter shall be based on the antemortem and postmortem findings and, when necessary, on laboratory results.

6. Any bird that exhibits signs of biological residues including drug or chemical poisoning -- withhold from slaughter.

When biological residues are suspected, the Regional Director and Inspection Operations shall be immediately notified as to history and number of animals, signs, and other pertinent information.

7. Any bird that exhibits signs of a reportable disease, i.e., exotic Newcastle Disease, avian influenza, -- withhold from slaughter.

In case of a suspected reportable disease, the inspector-in-charge shall

immediately notify plant management, obtain history, and inform (by telephone through the Area Supervisor) appropriate Federal and State officials.

8. Any bird that has a zoonotic disease, i.e., erysipelas, Chlamydia psittaci (ornithosis), anthrax, Salmonella, viral encephalitis -- withhold from slaughter.

Birds with or suspected of having a communicable disease may be removed from the plant at owner's request with the approval of the appropriate Federal or State authority. However, they are subject to Federal and State laws on disease control and eradication.

Birds passed for slaughter as suspects may be retained and slaughtered at the end of the day's operation, if practicable and adequate facilities are available.

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MODULE 7
Supplement

Using the script as the reference, complete the following:

1. The purpose of antemortem inspection is to accept only those birds that are _____, free of harmful chemical and drug _____, and capable of being converted into _____ product for the consumer.
2. _____ birds presented for slaughter by the establishment must receive antemortem inspection.
3. Antemortem inspection may be performed by either an FSIS _____ or a _____ under veterinary supervision.
4. Plant management must provide _____ facilities and _____, _____ personnel to assist the inspector at antemortem inspection.
5. In pens and alleys where inspection is done, the plant is required to provide at least _____ footcandles of light when measured at three feet above the floor.
6. Suspect pens require at least _____ footcandles of light when measured at three feet above the floor.
7. The suspect pen must have a _____ roof and adequate facilities for _____ restraint.
8. _____ are responsible for moving, segregating, restraining, identifying or disposing of the birds as may be required.
9. The inspector must observe both sides of each bird at _____ and in _____.

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10. Antemortem inspection should include observation of the following:
- | | |
|----------|----------|
| a. _____ | f. _____ |
| b. _____ | g. _____ |
| c. _____ | h. _____ |
| d. _____ | i. _____ |
| e. _____ | j. _____ |
11. All birds required to be identified as **U.S. Suspects** shall be tagged by plant personnel with a serially numbered metal or plastic leg band or tag bearing the term " _____."
12. All birds required to be identified as **U.S. Condemned** shall be tagged by plant personnel with a serially numbered metal or plastic leg band or tag bearing the term _____.
13. When antemortem inspection of abnormal birds reveals a _____ condition, a disease or condition that may require carcass condemnation on _____ inspection, or a disease or condition requiring further _____ or _____, the affected birds must be identified as **U.S. Condemned** and must be withheld from slaughter:
14. Condemned birds must be tagged **U.S. Condemned** , and must be promptly and _____ killed by plant employees and disposed of as required. As an alternative, they may be _____ for observation and/or treatment in separate, identified facilities on the official premises. Following _____, they may be reexamined by an FSIS veterinarian. If normal, they may be passed for

slaughter as _____.

15. Dead-on-arrival (DOA) carcasses will be tagged _____ and disposed of in a manner that precludes their use as human food.
16. Birds showing signs of abnormalities or diseases shall be segregated into designated pens for examination by an FSIS _____.
17. For birds with the following diseases/conditions, indicate the proper disposition(s), i.e, pass for regular slaughter, slaughter as suspects, withhold from slaughter, or condemn.
 - a. A bird in which an abnormality is detected that would not affect the wholesomeness of the bird:_____.
 - b. Any bird which shows signs of a disease or condition that would cause condemnation of a part of the carcass: _____.
 - c. Any bird with signs of abnormalities or diseases such as dirty ruffled feathers, swollen sinuses, eye and/or nostril discharge, diarrhea, swellings, lameness, ascites, cachexia, etc.: _____.
 - d. Any bird which does not clearly show symptoms of disease but is suspected of being affected with a disease or condition that would cause condemnation of the carcass on postmortem inspection: _____.
 - e. Possible dispositions of birds that are seriously crippled or are "downers":
 - (1) _____
 - (2) _____
 - (3) _____

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- f. Any bird that exhibits signs of biological residues including drug or chemical poisoning:_____.
 - g. Any bird that exhibits signs of a reportable disease:
_____.
 - h. Any bird that has a zoonotic disease:
_____.
18. When biological residues are suspected, the Regional Director and Inspection Operations shall be immediately notified as to:
- a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
19. In case of a suspected reportable disease, the inspector-in-charge shall:
- a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - _____
20. Birds with or suspected of having a communicable disease may be _____ from the plant at owner's request with the _____ of the appropriate Federal or State authority.